Message Text

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TAGS: EAGR, BAGB, BEXP, EEWT, HU SUBJECT: KAPOSVAR MEAT PROJECT

REF: BUDAPEST 0399

- 1. ON MARCH 8 CHARGE AND COMMATT MET WITH VILMOS JOZSA, DEPUTY GENERAL DIRECTOR OF KOMPLEX, WHICH, TOGETHER WITH HUNGARIAN MEAT TRUST, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR KAPOSVAR MEAT PLANT. MEETING WAS HELD WITH APPROVAL OF EPSTEIN IN ORDER TO OFFER OFFICIAL USG SUPPORT FOR AMERICAN FIRM.
- 2. ACCORDING TO JOZSA, EPSTEIN, WEST GERMANS AND DANES ARE THREE CONTENDERS STILL IN RUNNING OUT OF THE SIX WESTERN COMPANIES WHICH SUBMITTED COMPLETE OFFERS. JOZSA VOLUNTEERED THAT PRICES OF THREE COMPETITORS VERY CLOSE AND THAT BUY-BACK CONSIDERATIONS MAY PLAY ROLE IN DETERMINING FIRM FINALLY SELECTED. WEST GERMAN FIRM PREFERRED BY MANY, BUT MAGYARS WELL AWARE OF EPSTEIN SUCCESS WITH POLISH PROJECTS AND CHARGE QUICK TO POINT OUT THAT FULLY 40 PERCENT OF HUNGARIAN EXPORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO U.S. NOW CONSISTS OF HAM AND BACON. WE REGARD OUTCOME AS A TOSS UP, THOUGH EMBARRASSINGLY HEAVY DEPENDENCE ON WEST GERMANS FOR WESTERN TECHNOLOGY COULD ACTUALLY WORK AGAINST FRG IN THIS CASE.

3. KOMPLEX HOPES TO MAKE FINAL DECISION IN MID-MARCH. EMBASSY WILL ADVISE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EAGR, BAGB, BEXP, EEWT, HU, (JOZSA, VILMOS)

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